

The original documents are located in Box 17, “9/23/75 - Remarks at Meeting with Officials of Disabled American Veterans” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH NATIONAL COMMANDER
AND OFFICIALS OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS TO PUR-
CHASE OFFICIAL 1975 BICENTENNIAL STERLING SILVER MEDAL,
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1975, 12:15 P.M.

1. The Disabled American Veterans have made a tremendous contribution to the defense of America's freedom over the years. In a very special way, you have helped make possible our celebration of 200 years of American independence. I salute you -- and commend you.

2. Your participation in America's Bicentennial observance is also special. I understand the D.A.V., together with its auxiliary, includes some 500,000 members. And with your families, you number more than 2.5 million people. I am confident that with your drive and determination, the campaign to sell these beautiful Bicentennial medals will help to raise much of the money needed to finance our Bicentennial celebration.

3. I personally appreciate this great effort you're making to see that our Bicentennial is the success it should be. This new enterprise is only the latest chapter in a long history of service to your country. The qualities of courage, sacrifice and devotion to duty which made our Revolution successful 200 years ago have also been important qualities in each of your lives, and in the life of your organization.

4. So it is a very special honor for me to purchase this first Bicentennial medal from the Disabled American Veterans. I do so with great pride. As I give you this check, let me wish you great success in offering these beautiful Bicentennial commemorations to the American people. Thank you all for coming today.